

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO DA WASHDC//DAMO-SSA//

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2697

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USCINCEUR//ECJ4/7-SAME/SAFT//

CDR TRADOC FT MONROE VA//ATTNG-PRP-FMT//

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CDRMICOM REDSTONE ARS AL

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1513

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KU

SUBJ: IHAWK TRAINING-KUWAIT

REF: A. DA 142009Z MAR 75

B. KUWAIT 5515 DTG 301342Z DEC 74 (NOTAL)

C. KUWAIT 1441 DTG 021148Z APR 75 (NOTAL)

D. KUWAIT 0909 DTG 260926Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

E. KUWAIT 0920 DTG 270634Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

F. AMC 271947Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

G. DA 011720Z APR 74 (NOTAL)

H. USCINCEUR 3876 DTG 271745Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: EMBASSY COMMENTS ON ARMY IHAWK TRAINING PLAN RECEIVED
19MAR75. EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS PROBABLY CAN NOT BE MET BY
GOK. INCREASED NUMBER US ADVISORS REQUIRED IN KUWAIT IS
OBJECTIONABLE. PLANNING TEAM REQUESTED VISIT KUWAIT ASAP.
END SUMMARY.

1. REFTTEL (A) REFERS TO USG IHAWK TRAINING PLAN FOR KUWAIT ARMED
FORCES (KAF). EMBASSY FIRST SAW THIS 7MAR75 PLAN ON 19MAR75
WHEN DRAFT RECEIVED.

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2. FOLLOWING COMMENTS OFFERED:

A) PLAN CALLS FOR PERSONNEL WITH MINIMUM SIX YEARS FORMAL EDUCATION, WITH NINE YEARS REQUIRED FOR MOST SPECIALTIES. REFTEL (B) PREVIOUSLY HAD ADVISED GOK PROBABLY COULD NOT PRODUCE EVEN HALF MANPOWER REQUIRED (IF EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS MAINTAINED) BASED ON ASSUMPTION SIX YEARS WOULD BE GENERAL REQUIREMENT. KAF CURRENTLY HAS AVAILABLE BETWEEN 250-300 ENLISTED MEN WITH 5-6 YEARS EDUCATION. THEY WILL BE COMMITTED TO A4 PROGRAM. OUR LOCAL ASSESSMENT IS THAT PERSONNEL KAF WILL PROVIDE FOR IHAWK WILL BE OF SAME OR SOMEWHAT LOWER EDUCATIONAL LEVEL. QUALITY OF TRAINEES WAS DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WITH ARMY IHAWK TEAM IN WASHINGTON BY EMBASSY DOD REP ON 6JAN75.

B. DRAFT TRAINING PLAN APPEARS PROVIDE NO FIELD MAINTENANCE TRAINING UNTIL AFTER EQUIPMENT IS SHIPPED TO KUWAIT. THIS WILL DELAY SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND REQUIRE CONSIDERABLY MORE US ADVISORS/ INSTRUCTORS IN KUWAIT THAN IF SUCH TRAINING WERE DONE IN CONUS. THIS COULD CREATE POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

C. LONGEST TRAINING TIME IS 116 WEEKS FOR OFFICERS AND 126 WEEKS FOR ENLISTED WHICH IS US PRACTICE (KAF USES JUNIOR OFFICERS WHERE US USES SENIOR NCO'S AND WARRANT OFFICERS).

D. IF FIRST BATTERY SHIPPED IN DEC 77, WE HAVE APPROXIMATELY 130 WEEKS FOR TRAINING. SINCE ARMY PROGRAM APPEARS PUT IHAWK EQUIPMENT IN STORAGE FOR SEVEN MONTHS, EQUIPMENT AVAILABILITY DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A PROBLEM.

E. PLAN CALLS FOR EOD TRAINING FOR TWO OFFICERS. TRAINING APPEARS LIMITED TO FAMILIARIZATION, ETC., OF PREVIOUSLY QUALIFIED EOD PERSONNEL. KUWAIT AIR FORCE HAS NO EOD PERSONNEL AT PRESENT. KUWAIT ARMY HAS TWO IN TRAINING IN UK. WE SUGGEST FOUR EOD PERSONNEL BE TRAINED TO SERVE OVERALL NEEDS OF AIR FORCE. THIS IS MINIMUM NUMBER REQUIRED FOR 24-HOUR AVAILABILITY OF ONE QUALIFIED OFFICER. (THIS PROBABLY EXCEEDS NARROW VIEW OF SCOPE OF IHAWK TRAINING. HOWEVER, NEED APPEARS RECOGNIZED AND THERE IS NO OTHER PLANNED SOURCE.)

3. "PLAN" DEVELOPED BY KAF FOR INTERNAL USE HAS TECHNICAL/ CONFIDENTIAL

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OPERATIONAL TRAINING BEGINNING MAR75, WITH 209 MEN IN TRAINING IN US BY 1JAN76. LANGUAGE TRAINING IS A PREREQUISITE. KAF AUTHORITIES STATE THEY EXPECT SOME SLIPPAGE SINCE FMS EQUIPMENT CASE DELAYED. HOWEVER, SINCE DLIEL EXPERT (BASED UPON ECL SCORES) SUGGESTED 40-50 WEEKS OF LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR CADETS AND 50-60 FOR EM VICE MUCH SHORTER PERIODS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED BY RAYTHEON, KAF EXPECTS THESE TWO FACTORS WILL SUBSTANTIALLY COUNTERACT EACH

OTHER.

4. COMMENT: KAF PLAN (WHICH IS ALL THEY HAVE) APPEARS TO DIFFER SUBSTANTIALLY WITH ARMY'S 7MAR75 PLAN. IT APPEARS JOINT PLANNING BETWEEN DA AND KAF IS OVERDUE. DETAILS ARE TOO COMPLEX FOR EMBASSY TO ADDRESS. A TEAM FROM DA TO PLAN WITH KUWAIT IS IHAWK TRAINING APPEARS NEEDED. EMBASSY IS RELUCTANT TO PROVIDE DRAFT USG PLAN TO KAF BECAUSE IT IS BASED ON EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MANPOWER THAT CANNOT BE MET BY GOK AND BECAUSE IT WILL REQUIRE THAT A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF TRAINING PROGRAM BE DONE BY US ADVISORS IN KUWAIT. THIS IS GOK'S HIGHEST PRIORITY MILITARY PROGRAM AND ONUS FOR ANY DELAY WILL BE PLACED ON USG.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: SEND DA PLANNING TEAM FOR IHAWK TRAINING TO KUWAIT ASAP. IF SENT, SUCH A TEAM SHOULD BE AWARE OF GENERAL BACKGROUND CONTAINED IN REFTEL (C) THRU (H) AND DA SUPPLY/ MOVEMENT PROBLEMS. LATTER CAN BEST BE BRIEFED BY DALO-ILM. THESE UNRELATED MATTERS WILL AFFECT CLIMATE IN WHICH TEAM MUST FUNCTION.
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